

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for limiting the use of a network address, the method comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification data specific to a device connected to the network; and

sending a message preventing the device from using a network address generated based on the identification data.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the identification data acquired in the acquiring step is a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the message in the sending step indicates that the network address is duplicated.

4. Computer-executable process steps for limiting the use of a network address, the computer-executable process steps comprising:

acquiring identification data specific to a device connected to the network; and

sending a message preventing the device from using a network address generated based on the identification data.

5. The computer-executable process steps according to claim 4, wherein the identification data acquired in the acquiring step is a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device.

6. The computer-executable process steps according to claim 4, wherein the message in the sending step indicates that the network address is duplicated.

7. An apparatus for limiting the use of a network address, comprising:

connection means for connecting to a network and acquiring identification data specific to a device connected to the network; and

generation means for generating a message preventing the device from using a network address generated based on the identification data,

wherein the connection means sends the message to the device.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the generation means acquires a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device as the identification data.

9. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the connection means sends a message indicating that the network address is duplicated.

10. A method for limiting data transfer, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting that a device connected to a network sends data containing a network address generated based on an identifier specific to the device; and

preventing the data from being transferred.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the identifier is a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein, in the preventing step, data received from a first network is prevented from being transferred to a second network.

13. Computer-executable process steps for limiting data transfer, the computer-executable process steps comprising:

detecting that a device connected to a network sends data containing a network address generated based on an identifier specific to the device; and

preventing the data from being transferred.

14. The computer-executable process steps according to claim 13, wherein the identifier is a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device.

15. The program according to claim 13, wherein, in the preventing step, data received from a first network is prevented from being transferred to a second network.

16. An apparatus for limiting data transfer, comprising:

connection means for connecting to a network; and

prevention means for preventing a device connected to the network from transferring data containing a network address generated based on an identifier specific to the device.

17. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the prevention means prevents data containing a network address generated based on a data-link-layer identifier of a network interface of the device from being transferred.

18. The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the prevention means prevents data received from a first network

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from being transferred to a second network.